

I Claim

1. A method of operating a third generation mobile telecommunications system, in which packets are addressed to a mobile node which is currently associated with a foreign network and is communicating with a correspondent node, comprising the steps of:

5 setting up a home agent in the correspondent node and allocating a Care of Address for the mobile node; and

 changing the packet header so that the source address is the home agent address, the destination address is the Care of Address, and the header further includes a correspondent node identifier code and a mobile
10 node identifier code.

2. A method according to Claim 1 in which the Care of Address is the address of the mobile node.

3. A method according to Claim 1 in which the Care of Address is the address of a foreign agent in the foreign network.

15 4. A method according to claim 1 in which the packet header is changed by the home agent.

 5. A method according to claim 4 comprising the further steps of:
 the home agent retaining a record of correspondent node and correspondent node identifier codes; and

20 the home agent sending a copy of said record to the destination address in the Care of Address at which said information is also stored.

 6. A method according to Claim 5 in which when a packet arrives at the destination address in the Care of Address, the destination checks the stored information and replaces the correspondent node identifier code in the
25 header with the correspondent node home address.

 7. A method according to claim 1 comprising the further steps of:
 the home agent retaining a record of the mobile node and mobile node identifier code; and

 sending a copy of said record to the Care of Address at which said
30 information is also stored.

8. A method according to Claim 7 in which, when the packets arrive at

the Care of Address, the foreign agent checks the stored information and replaces the mobile node identifier code in the header with the mobile node home address.

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